(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Rail-cum-road over-bridge over Ganga river

†617. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rail-cum-road over-bridge on the river Ganga at Patna, which is under construction, is unlikely to be completed within stipulated time limit;

(b) if so, the stipulated date for completion of the aforesaid rail-over-bridge and by when train is likely to be operational on it;

(c) whether Muzaffarpur-Laheriasarai-Darbhanga new rail line would be essential in light of the saving of time for traveling to North Bihar after commencement of rail operation through this rail over-bridge; and

(d) if so, the attitude of Government and the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The work is targeted for completion by March, 2012 depending upon availability of resources.

(c) and (d) A Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic survey between Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga (66 km) has been included in budget 2007-08. Further consideration would be feasible after completion of the survey.

Rail over-bridge near Jangipur railways station

618. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would agree to construct the road over-bridge near Jangipur railway station on Azimganj-New Farakka section of Malda Division on 50:50 basis; and

(b) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Road over bridge in lieu of Level Crossing No. 23/B/T near Jangipur Road Railway Station on Azimganj-New Farakka section has been sanctioned in August, 2007 (as supplementary work) at an estimated cost of Rs. 1291.53 lakh with Railway's share as Rs. 598.48 lakh and State Government's share as Rs. 693.05 lakh.

(b) Does not arise.

Direct rail link between Kolkata and Balurghat

619. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is no direct rail connectivity between Kolkata and Balurghat; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.